Park and Recreation Commission

Meeting Minutes

Date: January 14, 2014, 6:00 P.M.

Place: Room 111, Town Hall, 333 Washington Street, Brookline MA

Commissioners Attending: John Bain, Nancy O' Connor, Jim Carroll, Clara Batchelor Antonia Bellalta, Jean

Stameris, Daniel Lyons

Staff: Erin Gallentine, Parks and Open Space Director, Lisa Paradis, Recreation Director, Jessica Zarni, Parks

Administrative Assistant

TOPIC	KEY POINTS/DISCUSSION	
Chairman's Welcome Approval of Minutes	J. Bain opened the meeting and asked for changes or comments on the Park and Recreation Minutes from December, and also the Park and Recreation Commission Wheel-Friendly/Skateboard Plaza: Pearl Street Location/ Opportunity Review Minutes and the Design Review Committee Meeting for the Fisher Hill Reservoir Park Minutes. N. O'Connor and D. Lyons had some minor changes, and those were changed in the minutes.	N. O'Connor moved to approve the minutes as amended. Seconded by J. Stameris. All in favor.
Public Comment	 J. Bain and L. Paradis discussed the new garage. The ornamental fence and handrails at Billy Ward Playground were discussed amongst the Commissioners. 	
Recreation Fees Update	• L. Paradis passed out a spreadsheet for all the fees from FY12 thru FY15, the FY14 and FY15 fees are in red. L. Paradis stated that she prefers to do this quarterly, instead of coming to the commissioner very month for a different program. L. Paradis gave some background into the Committees that are taking a long hard look at the fees and cost recovery. J. Bain and L. Paradis discussed the percentage of the increases. N. O'Connor and L. Paradis discussed the percentage increase at Soule from FY13 to FY14, M. Battite explained why different classrooms had different percentages. FY15 at Soule was discussed; it is a 20 % increase and will continue at that percentage increase over the next 3 years. It will be a 60% overall increase, but it will not be close to market value. L. Paradis discussed how raising the percentage at Soule will take the burden of both the operating budget on the general side and the revolving fund. D. Lyons asked how long it would take L. Paradis to get the desired cost recovery, L. Paradis stated that some of the programs will take 2-3 years and other will take 5-6 depending on the market and revolving fund.	A. Bellata moved to except the FY14 and FY15 increases as presented by L. Paradis. Seconded by D. Lyons. All in favor.

Review Of Renaming Proposal For Cypress Playground To Hennessey Field

J. Bain opened this discussion. The Park and Recreation N. O'Connor made a Commissions received a proposal to rename Cypress Playground to Hennessey field, and to install a statue or a plague in honor of Tom Hennessey. Jack Kendrick presented his proposal on November 12, 2013. J. Bain provided background information on T. Hennessey as outlined in the proposal submitted by J. Kendrick. D. Lyons stated that he enjoyed watching him play. J. Kendrick discussed the timeline of his football days. J. Bain stated that tonight the Commission will focus on the actual naming of the playground, and if the statue does come to life than J. Kendrick would be coming back to address the Park and Recreation Commission on that element separately. The Commissioners have heard the presentation, and J. Bain thanked J. Kendrick for his thoughtful presentation. At the last meeting J. Bain requested that at the Park and Recreation Commissioners review the "Policy For The Renaming Of Parks And Recreation Facilities" individually and that tonight this proposal would be discussed and a decision made. J.Bain asked J. Kendrick if he had anything to say before the Commissioners began. J. Kendrick stated that at the last meeting he had taken all the comments seriously, and he described all the enthusiasm that he has seen regarding this memorialization. J. Kendrick discussed the conversations he has had with designing sculptures, and the details that were involved of getting a picture of Tom Hennessey. J. Kendrick said that he had some donations lined up. N. O'Connor asked what the donations were for. J. Kendrick said that he had considered his priorities for fundraising associated with the proposal. He discussed the order of the priorities involved in this project for T. Hennessey. J. Kendrick listed the priorities of the project: first a statue, then a scholarship and then a possible donation for the Park. He stated that a lot of people are interested in contributing. J. Bain stated that there is a policy and there are guidelines that need to be honored regarding public art. He stated that the scholarship and sculpture are different requests. The School Department would need to evaluate the scholarship proposal and the Park and Recreation Commission may consider the proposal of a statue of Tom Hennessey separately. Joe Davis addressed the committee and wanted to reinforce what J. Kendrick had said, and stated that every individual that J. Kendrick and he had come across wants to donate. J. Bain wanted to clarify because J. Davis and J. Kendrick had brought up the subject of money/donation at the last meeting and the Commission was not clear what they were proposing. J.Bain wanted to clarify that this

motion not to support the renaming of Cypress Field as T. Hennessey Park. Seconded by C. Batchelor. All in favor.

- proposal is not about the money it is more about the actual renaming of a public park and how it conforms to the established criteria.
- J. Carroll addressed everyone and wanted to start off by saying that this is a real testament to T. Hennessey that people are pushing this forward to honor his legacy, and that is a great honor within itself. J. Carroll stated that he has lived in Brookline for over 30 years, but embarrassed to say this is the first time he has ever heard T. Hennessey's name. J. Carroll does not have a lot of historical perspective on T. Hennessey as an individual and his contributions, J. Carroll will breakdown his vote upon looking at the criteria that was established in the guidelines in terms of being exceptional individuals, historical and cultural events, places and person and major gifts. He stated that this is just his personal opinion, there is not a clear defined checklist, he can only speak to his individual feeling and opinions. J. Carroll stated at this time looking at the criteria he does not feel that he can support the renaming of Cypress Field.
- C. Batchelor addressed everyone. C. Batchelor stated that Brookline has produced many incredible people, and she thinks the criteria was developed to acknowledge people who have contributed to the Town of Brookline Parks and Recreation System. She stated that T. Hennessey was a teacher, a Town Selectman, but there are many Town Selectman and she doesn't think that gets you there. C. Batchelor finds it difficult to decide to name one of the parks after one individual when there are so many deserving people, many people who have done great things for the Town of Brookline and with their lives outside the Town of Brookline. She stated that it is a testament that he has such devoted friends, but C. Batchelor feels that as of today he does not meet the criteria.
- A. Bellalta addressed everyone. A. Bellalta wanted to state that she supports everything that has been said previously. She discussed how certain parks were named before the guidelines came into place, and she thinks we need to be careful just to name a park after an individual when our policy does hold specific certain criteria. A. Bellalta does believe something should be done in his honor, but she does not believe that changing the name of Cypress Field is the appropriate thing to do.
- D. Lyons addressed everyone. D. Lyons stated that as a kid he was so impressed with T. Hennessey's abilities, and he truly was one of his heroes. He remembers watching him at Holy Cross; he was an exceptional individual, a man of many talents. He would consider a statue maybe in one of our parks, however he thinks it

- would be a more appropriate testament to a guy like that, who spent his entire career in education, endowing a scholarship. D. Lyons stated that where he sees T. Hennessey fall short is in the guidelines. He didn't play a role in the parks. He finds it sad since he was so strong in so many areas, and D. Lyons has so much respect for him. D. Lyons stated at this point he could not support renaming the park, and he would rather see that money on endowing scholarships and promoting the idea that kids should go after a scholarship, and use a guy like T. Hennessey as an example.
- J. Stameris addressed everyone. J. Stameris stated that she agrees with everything that has been said so far by all the Commissioners, there is no denying that he had some great accomplishments. J. Stameris thinks his family and friends should be so proud of the legacy he has left behind; however the criteria that is set forth to name or rename a park she does not believe it fits into that criteria. J. Stameris stated that she cannot support renaming Cypress Field in his honor, but stated that she agrees he deserves something and believes a scholarship would be a great idea.
- A. Bellalta discussed how a few years ago the collection of memorials were looked at around Town Hall itself, and this effort was made to look at how we should not allow statues and plaques to show up all over the place in public parks because they do start to take over. She believes they are trying to make a conservative effort because if they allow anyone who does something of excellence to get a plaque or statue in the parks, they will start to take over everything else. The parks are small and overtaxed at this point, and we need to be careful with these things.
- D. Lyons wanted to point out that many of the places that are named for people if they went by today's guidelines would not exist. The criteria has changed and we have to abide by that.
- N. O'Connor addressed everyone. N. O'Connor stated back in November she tried planting some seeds and to start thinking outside the box, given T. Hennessey's back ground, the kind of thing he did for the Town and his personal accomplishments she believes were not directly related to the Brookline Parks System. N. O'Connor stated that J. Kendrick did point out that being a Selectman he did in some ways oversee the Parks System She does not see that T. Hennessy fits into this criteria, it is a tough thing to do though because of this emotional proposal. N. O'Connor stated how wonderful T. Hennessey is, and the commissioners are inclined to brainstorm other possibilities, opportunities, directions and thoughts. She state that he was so

- connected to the schools, he would want to empower youths and enable them in there future endeavors. N. O'Connor does not believe T. Hennessey falls within the criteria and it's the Park and Recreation Commissioners job to think long and hard when it comes to naming them, it needs to fit and the whole commission needs to feel comfortable and at this time N. O'Connor does not believe that she can support the renaming of Cypress Field.
- J. Bain addressed the committee. J. Bain stated that the Park and Recreation Commission has a policy for naming public facilities in order to ensure that the parks and recreation areas and facilities are easily identified and located; so that they must have a systematic and consistent approach for the official naming of any park. J. Bain stated that we have worked very hard in the Town over the past several years to create a process, and it would not be right for us to waive that process. J. Bain personally knew Hennessey and stated that it is very difficult for him to oppose this proposal. His reason for opposition has nothing to do with T. Hennessey personally, but there is a policy and criteria that must be honored. There are so many people in the community who work tirelessly in the parks voluntarily, who are exceptional individuals themselves. J. Bain wanted to applaud J. Kendrick for all of his efforts, and has done a great job in generating the interest for T. Hennessey and he knows that interest will not go away. J. Bain stated that this is not the last stop for J. Kendrick he is more than welcome to move onto the Naming Committee, and then it can move onto Town Meeting. J. Bain stated that it is very difficult to not approve this renaming, but we have to honor our commitments to our Commission, to Town Meeting and to the Citizens and why our rules and regulations and criteria were created.
- J. Kendrick stated that he respects the position and policy, but he believes the T. Hennessey's contributions meet the bylaws of the Town. In terms of historic recognition, T. Hennessey is the only one in the history of the Town to be Chairman of the Selectman and School Committee. J. Kendrick gave a few examples of names that are attached to various assets for Park and Recreation, people who he respects greatly, but never contributed to the town directly. He believes T. Hennessey contributed greatly to the Town and its citizens, and his contributions to the Town affected Park and Recreation.
- J. Bain addressed those examples, and stated that back then the Park and Recreation Commission did not have some of these guidelines. The policy has changed and will continue to change. J. Bain stated that if we moved

- forward with this renaming, ten years from now that too could change according to the Naming Committee's Policy. J. Bain stated that he understands J. Kendrick's position, but at this time the Park and Recreation Commission does not feel that they can support the renaming of Cypress Field. He agrees with the rest of the Commissioners in regards to having a scholarship to memorialize T. Hennessey. He feels that is something that will live on forever.
- J. Kendrick wanted to know how to bring this before the Naming Committee and he wanted to respectfully state that he finds it unfair that according to these guidelines only if you contribute to Park and Recreation, then and only then an asset can be named after someone to honor them. N. O'Connor stated that she will not be arguing this issue, but wanted to state we are doing the best that we can based on the criteria that we established over the past few years. The Commission decided that if they were going to move forward with the renaming of a park, that it would be relevant and meaningful for the space and place to recognize people who had significant lasting contributions to the Town Park and Recreation System programs or services. Based on the policy,, the criteria we set forward and your proposal, N. O'Connor and the other Commissioners does not believe at this time this proposal fits the criteria. N. O'Connor is unsure of what the Naming Committee will do with this proposal. A. Bellata stated that she would not look at this as a defeat, if you look at the opportunities with the scholarship and the legacy that actually lives on verbally promoting that scholarship and teaching the student to look up to someone like T. Hennessey as a mentor. A. Bellata suggested looking at these opportunities to keep his legacy alive rather than just memorializing it. D. Lyons believes that T. Hennessey in his own mind would prefer something related to education. J. Kendrick stated that the notion of a statue would cut across T. Hennessey's grain, but he believes that he needs to be honored and recognized, and he should not be punished for not being directly affiliated with Park and Recreation. N. O'Connor wanted to point out that this is not the only criteria that they are looking at, and whether or not they rename the field after him has nothing to do with who he was a person and doesn't think J. Kendrick should depict it in that way. N. O'Connor made a motion not to support the renaming of Cypress Field as T. Hennessey Park. Seconded by C. Batchelor. All in favor. J. Bain stated that the next step for J. Kendrick would be the Naming Committee and thanked him for his presentation. J. Bain stated that we have a policy that we must abide by, J. Kendrick stated

that he disagrees with the Park and Recreation's interpretation of the bylaws. Waldstein Playground N. O'Connor moved to Annie Blair presented to the Park and Recreation **Design Final Presentation** vote in favor of the Commission, and had handouts for everyone. A. Blair started out by stating that tonight we will go through the plans and add alternates primary design, what is in the base bid and present the as recommended by the Waldstein Design consensus about the add alternates from the Design Review Committee. There would be a central spine Review Committee and pathway that abuts seven tennis courts, a perimeter path presented by A. Blair. that goes all the way around with accessible entries from Seconded by A. Dean Road, Beacon Street and Clinton Path, a rotating Bellalta. All in favor. little league ball field, a variety different types of seating new water play and play equipment, basketball and multi-sport half court. A few things that A. Blair wanted C. Batchelor made a to point out: some significant work is not apparent such motion that says if private funds are made as drainage and irrigation. The base budget is 1.18 million dollars and with that we can get the following: available for a skate the new tennis courts, 4 of the 6 proposed lights, spoke that the Park and basketball paving and sealcoating for multi-use court, the Recreation commission water play, most of playground equipment, seating withil authorizes our Director playground, café seating, new pavement, passive seating E. Gallentine to move rotating and renovating the ball field and the loop path. the skate spot to position to number A. Blair listed the add alternates as approved by the Design review Committee. three. Seconded by D. Lyons. J. Carroll, A. 1. Stair Repair (safety precaution) Bellalta and J. Stameris 2. Additional Tennis lighting in favor. N. O'Connor 3. Rotating dish and J. Bain opposed. 4. Multi-use Goal/ Bang Board 5. Benches/ Passive Seating N. O'Connor made a 6. Skate Spot motion that when plans 7. Additional Site Seating go out to bid that E. 8. Social Seating Gallentine and staff can 9. Cloud Swing make changes on site, A. Blair stated that the items in the base bid have to be due to site conditions, done to make the program components work, the budget or professional drainage and irrigation were very high priority. There is judgment. Seconded by additional work to be done with separate money, the perimeter fencing, adjacent drainage improvements, the J. Carroll. All in favor. Town will provide the processed wood fiber for the play areas and the Town will be purchasing the trees. A Blair discussed the play structures in the base bid, and described how they were scaled back. A Blair showed slides of the rotating dish and cloud swing. The water play and the splash pad are included in the base bid, it continues the nature theme and is appropriate for all age groups. A. Blair showed slides

- for the tall features and the ground jets.
- Slides of the site furniture, café seating and picnic sets were shown.
- A. Blair wanted to explain that initially the play equipment was arranged so that the water was in the middle, the 5-12 year old on the left and 2-5 on the right. It turns out that the location of the splash pad would cause a lot of disruption to the tree roots, so it has been pushed over to the side.
- J. Carroll asked A. Blair if that was an internal design review of the play equipment and A. Blair responded with a yes. J. Bain asked if the water feature is the same size, A. Blair responded with a yes. A. Bellalta asked if the café seating does not go in the corner what will be there, A. Blair responded with grass and shrubs. J. Bain and A. Blair discussed the new drainage for the tennis courts.
- A. Blair discussed what the next steps would be for the bid process, and why having one contractor for all the projects does not seem like a good idea.
- E. Gallentine suggested language for the motion. The motion would be to vote in favor of the plans and add alternates as recommended by the Waldstein Design Review Committee and presented by A. Blair.
- N. O'Connor stated that at the Design Review Committee we discussed the possibility moving the add alternates up and down based on private donations. E. Gallentine recommends that be a separate motion. N. O'Connor moved to vote in favor of the plans and add alternates as recommended by the Waldstein Design Review Committee and presented by A. Blair. Seconded by A. Bellalta. All in favor.
- N. O'Connor discussed having a separate motion for money becoming available before the project goes out to bid for specific add alternates. E. Gallentine stated that we would need to have the money in hand or have a commitment for it in the next few weeks. The skate spot is the one with interest from private funding. E. Gallentine stated if there was a private donation, the Park and Recreation Commission would need to decide if they would like to move the alternates up and decide on what order they would be moved up to. E. Gallentine thinks she needs to be able to move the skate spot up in the priorities if a donation comes in. J. Carroll asked if we need to make a decision now in anticipation of a skate spot, or can they reconvene and reconsider at a later date. E. Gallentine stated that the Design Review and Park and Recreation Commission voted on the skate spot as an add alternate, and she needs to be enabled to move it if a donation comes in. C. Batchelor made a motion that says if private funds are made

	available for a skate spoke that the Park and Recreation Commission authorizes our Director E. Gallentine to move the skate spot to position to number three. Seconded by D. Lyons. J. Carroll, A. Bellalta and J. Stameris in favor. N. O'Connor and J. Bain opposed. J. Carroll asked if it would make sense to move the skate spot to number two if the money becomes available, and E. Gallentine stated that the skate spot is fine at number 3. E. Gallentine asked for a motion because of some of the comments and questions around Billy Ward. She wanted to ask one of the Commissioners to move a motion that when plans go out to bid that E. Gallentine and staff can make changes on site, due to site conditions, budget or professional judgment. The motion was moved my N. O'Connor. Seconded by J. Carroll. All in favor.
Cypress Playground/ Field	The Park Division hosts an annual outdoor movies J. Bain moved to have
Event And Movie Night	series, consisting of 3 movies at the Devotion School. It has been popular, but with park renovations an idea of moving the movies to different areas has come about. Brookline Access Television is rebranding themselves, and would like to partner and do one big movie event at Cypress with a bigger screen. This will be technology focused, there will be a partnership with TedEx, have speakers, food, various groups and demonstrations. E. Gallentine wanted a vote from the commission to have an event as well as movie night at Cypress. J. Bain moved to have one movie night and event this year at Cypress. Seconded by C. Batchelor. All in favor.
Recreation Program	Gerry Kelly presented to the Recreation Program
Division Annual Report	 Division Annual Report. A handout was given to all the Commissioners. G. Kelly started off by discussing their licensed programs and the two big components of that division which are summer camps and after school programs. CampDocs.com have been incorporated into the summer camp program, which allows for families to access and submit camp documents online instead of having to collect them either via email or in person. This will be more efficient and will use less staff. N. O'Connor asked if each camp will have a laptop available, and G. Kelly responded with a yes G. Kelly discussed the new summer lunch program that took off last year and how it is tied into the High School program. This allows for anyone who has free or reduced school lunch in the school year to continue to have access to this program in the summer. The program is available for all summer programs on school campuses in Brookline. This lunch program is something you sign up for during the registration process. L. Paradis discussed the card that is used for the

- lunch program, there is no currency physically exchanged. M. Battite discussed how great this program is, how the school system was still making money and how it is a great resource for the summer camps.
- The literacy program was discussed. N. O'Connor and G. Kelly discussed the age groups of the campers.
- G. Kelly talked about the puppet and Legos camp, and this mentioned that this year they are looking to partnership with Brookline Access Television.
- The after school program was discussed. It is during the school year and runs from 2:30-6:00. The QRIS rating system was discussed. This rates your consistency with workers, education and procedures. The scale runs from a 1-5 and Brookline is currently a 2. G. Kelly discussed the shared staff with camp, ASP and the shared resources with the Soule Early Childhood Center.
- The nature program was discussed. The environmentalist is looking to reach the older children, and completed an intense 8 day training in the woods. This February vacation she will be offering a hiking adventure camp with our partners from Peabody. Looking to the future, Stephanie is interested in beginning a Brookline Outdoors Club, monthly overnight trips, and to expand the nature curriculum to 2nd grade Science in all of the schools.
- The next topic discussed was Community events. The community events have restructured their sponsoring tiers, and this year is the first year the concerts have been self-supporting. Sponsors were discussed. G. Kelly stated that this year they are looking to administer more community events. L. Paradis and Elizabeth Gugliotti, the Community Events Coordinator met with Kara Brewton and discussed new things such as First Light and the Art Festival. L. Paradis stated that this year we will be shadowing First Light and the Arts festival. N. O'Connor asked if L. Paradis will take them over after this year, and L. Paradis responded with a yes. L. Paradis stated that she is thinking about packaging sponsorship for Brookline Day and First Light. L. Paradis and N. O'Connor discussed how there is not a lot of overlapping of sponsorships. L. Paradis and M. Battite discussed possible changes that will be made to First Light. N. O'Connor discussed previous First Lights.
- Youth Sports were discussed. G. Kelly wanted to point
 out at they want to ensure consistency of the training
 across all sports. One big thing brought on this year was
 the Alpha Sports Program. Once the coach signs up an
 email is sent out to all the coaches every week from the
 company, and this email will give the coaches ideas
 about how to run their practices that week. All coaches

- need to take mandatory concussion training and mandatory clinics.
- G. Kelly stated that they currently have part time help at Tappan, and they are looking to have a presence of a full time staff member. At Tappan they are looking to do additional programming, utilize space more efficiently, partner with user groups, meet custodial needs, have land and sea classes, year round programming and additional weekend hours. Eventually there will be a community survey/needs assessment taken to see what the community needs are at that facility. N. O'Connor stated that the High School has worked discussions of that building use into their potential plans, and G. Kelly asked how this would stick and if they planned on getting this underway before they announce the Science Wing. The goal is for the High School to work with them during the design review process. N. O'Connor and G. Kelly discussed the possible renovation ideas that have been thrown around. L. Paradis stated that there will always be a need for the current gym space here in Brookline, and that usage of that gym space is at different time for High School and Recreation. At this point there is not realistic way that they wouldn't be able to have the same relationship as they do now.
- The Program Division is looking to expand their use of mobile technology. There are looking to move forward on getting some tablets, for use at off site programs. G. Kelly discussed how helpful the cost recovery process has been. G. Kelly discussed budgets, mini budgets and professional development.
- G. Kelly and E. Gallentine discussed Lego camp.

Recreation Report

- L. Paradis wanted to start off by discussing Marvin Oliveros. M. Oliveros has been with Recreation for 20 years, and has excepted a position with the Brookline Police Department
- The skating rink has been super busy. The Woman's National Hockey game event at the Dexter School was discussed.
- Aquatic Dolphin Swim Team is going strong. L. Paradis discussed the Brookline Dolphins Swim Clinic that will be taught by the 2008 Olympic Bronze Medalist Kim Vandenberg.
- Recreation Therapy is doing a great job with the Special Olympics and everything else that they have been doing. B. Fitts will be taking on an intern, and she will start next week. This is her practical for her degree in Recreation Therapy. L. Paradis discussed Play it Forward, which is an all sports gear exchange. Any equipment that you want to purchase or donate this is the event for you. It will take Place January 25th from 10:00A-2:200P at Town Hall.

- L. Paradis explained what Passport to fitness is. The program allows for Brookline Residents to try and sample 10 different classes for 10 dollars at the local Brookline Fitness Centers from January through April.
- The RAFT teen programing is near its 1,000th member for the 2013-214 program year.
- Environmental Education started off December with a bulb planting; the Town of Brookline is now planted with over 40,000 bulbs.
- Soule is going strong. The toddler room will be in need of a new lead teacher. The Peace Pole Project was discussed.
- On May 8th Gillette stadium has been secured for the first New England Youth Sports Concussion Quorum, and what they hope to be an annual event. L. Paradis started this project over 2 years ago and L. Paradis is now associated with the Sports Legacy Institute. There has been this great partnership, there is a whole day of events lined up such as education sessions, keynote speaker a few world reknown, physicians and pro athlete speakers. There was a huge discount given to Brookline from Jonathan Kraft for the venue. The Department of Public Health is involved and a whole bunch of other institutes. This event will come with a breakfast networking event, lunch and a tour of the inside of Gillette Stadium. L. Paradis is very excited about the event. E. Gallentine wanted to recognize out how much of a huge deal this is. L. Paradis discussed how new and trendy this issue is, and discussed how M. Battite and L. Paradis came up with this venue. This is a conference for professionals in the field. N. O'Connor asked if they were taking the lead on this, and L. Paradis responded with a yes. L. Paradis is expecting a couple hundred people, but is prepared for more. M. Battite pointed out that the more people that attend the more conferences / workshops that need to be added. They don't want to limit it, but having to many people could change the formatting and dynamic of the event. L. Paradis discussed the times of the event. M. Battite stated that it will be marketed nationally, and people would want to go to Gillette just for the destination. L. Paradis stated that they do not need to give Gillette a final number of attendees until 5 days before the event, there is a preregistration of April 1st. N. O'Connor asked if she would add more speaker time if there is a huge turnout, and L. Paradis stated that she would just get bigger rooms. Gillette has 80 suites and they range in size. M. Battite discussed the suites. J. Bain and L. Paradis discussed how concussions are talked about more now than ever. L. Paradis stated that part of the mission she has is to make it is broad based, so that concussions are

not just associated with football. L. Paradis stated that cheerleading has the highest rate of concussions out of all the sports.

E. Gallentine stated that she is pleased to announce that

Parks and Open Space Report

- E. Gallentine stated that she is pleased to announce that Fisher Hill Park is under construction. E. Gallentine discussed a few of the complaints that she has received. The clearing will be dramatic, but there will be replanting. D. Lyons asked how long everything will take to mature, E. Gallentine stated that in 5-10 years it will look more naturalized but the intent is to look out about 20+ years. J. Carroll asked if E. Gallentine could arrange a tour to go up to Fisher Hill, E. Gallentine responded with a yes.
- E. Gallentine discussed the Design Review Meeting to look at the play equipment. The final design will come in front of the Park and Recreation Commission. E. Gallentine discussed a situation with Mitch Ryerson. Mitch Ryerson would like some kind of indemnification liability protection. He is an individual artist who makes play equipment, and while he fully stands behind his pieces and works with a safety professional for the safety design process with a safety sign off in the end, he would like for the Town to assume liability. E. Gallentine stated that this happens with every piece of equipment they have but it has never had to be in writing before. E. Gallentine listed the two options for this dilemma, one E. Gallentine can pay a premium and have a playground manufacture carry him under their umbrella, or something can be written up from Town Council stating that once we have signed off on the play equipment we will resume responsibility. E. Gallentine stated that he is just looking for protection. C. Batchelor stated that she believes he should go under a playground manufacture's umbrella, and told a few stories about incidences in which people have sued over play equipment injuries. The structure price was discussed. C. Batchelor moved to authorize the Town of Brookline to have Mitch Ryerson obtain a playground Manufacture to insure the playground equipment. Seconded by J. Carroll. All in favor.
- E. Gallentine stated that they are putting the bonding company on notice for Billy Ward Playground. E. Gallentine discussed some of the work as well as issues happening with Billy Ward. D. Lyons discussed what he noticed when he was by Billy Ward the other day.
- The High Street Hill Neighborhood Association wants to hold an event in Olmsted Park on Olmsted's Birthday

C. Batchelor moved to authorize the Town of Brookline to have Mitch Ryerson obtain a playground Manufacture to insure the playground equipment. Seconded by J. Carroll. All in favor.

	which is April 26 th . It will be a couple of hours from 1-3, there will be a tree walk, art activities, nature related stories and there will be food. • Brookline Bikes Beacon will be on May 18 th and Eris Doornewood's dedication will be that same day. E. Gallentine discussed the new entrance dedication for Eris Doornewood at Hall's Pond.
Other Business	 J. Bain wanted to thank the Commission for respecting the policy and the guidelines, tonight respected what has been put down on paper. The Commission discussed dates for J. Bain's lunch. N. O'Connor and E. Gallentine discussed when a proposal like J. Kendrick's comes up should a notice be sent to the Town meeting Members and the surrounding neighbors, and possibly a petition with signatures. Erin discussed a letter that will be sent from the Park and Recreation Commission detailing the discussion and unanimous vote taken tonight regarding the J. Kendrick proposal, the letter will be sent to the Naming Committee.
Adjourn	J. Bain moved to adjourn the meeting. Seconded by N. O'Connor. All in favor.

Next Meeting: February 11, 2014 Location: Town Hall Rm. 111

A true record

Attest <u>Jessica Zarni</u> Date: 1/14/2014